Increase in the Road Accidents in the Country

1202. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Number of Road Traffic Accidents in the country is increasing year by year and the rate of accidents is the highest in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government and funds allotted to reduce the number of accidents and mortality to the victims of accidents and disability following the accidents by organising accident services in the metropolitan cities of Delhi, Madras, Bombay and Calcutta; and

(c) whether any steps have been planned or implemented by the Government of India to improve the Pre-hospital management of the accident victims by establishing Modern Emergency Ambulance Services and Accident Centres in the Metropolitan Cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c): There has been a slight increase in the number of accidents over the years. The rate of accidents per thousand vehicles in India is not the highest in the world. The steps taken by the Govt. for reducing the number of accidents are given in the enclosed statement. (See below) in Delhi, a Pilot Scheme under Centralised Accident and Trauma Services (CATS) is in operation.

Statement

The Steps taken/being taken include—

1. The M.V. Act, 1988 and the Rules framed there under provide for stricter requirements in respect of issuance of driving licences, and stringent penalties for offences.
2. Formal training in a driving school is made a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles.
3. Maximum safe laden weights have been prescribed for trucks including light commercial vehicles.
4. Maximum speed limits have been prescribed for all vehicles except light motor vehicles.
5. Uniform intervals for checking the fitness of vehicles have been prescribed throughtout the country.
6. It is prescribed that road safety devices would be fitted in the vehicles viz. direction indicators with blinker system for vehicles, special lables on carriages carrying dangerous or hazardous goods.
7. A National Road Safety Council has been set up for formulation of road safety measures. State Governments were also requested to set up State level road safety councils.
8. Strict and rigid enforcement of traffic rules and regulations.
9. Regular special drive against rash and negligent driving, driving without driving lincences, drunken driving, defective head-lights, over-speeding, over-loading etc.
10. Regular prosecution of violation through issue of notices.
11. School children are regularly imparted necessary training/ educations in the schools about the rules of roads and related safety aspects by the road safety cell of Delhi Traffic Police.
12. Introduction of blinkers/signals at accidents prone areas.
13. Prosecution through Radar Guns.
14. More Police presence in accident prone areas.
15. Special morning drives and night mobile patrolling.
16. Use of Dordarshan/AIR/Press for giving wide publicity on road safety.
17. Painting of bus boxes, yellow boxes.
18. Special night checking on Highways.
19. Special Drive against buses, HTVs, TSRs, Taxis etc.
20. Painting competitions and other road safety activities are being organised by Road Safety Cell to inculcate the sense of road safety among various road users and children.